

## RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 55 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess until noon.

□ 1200

## AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BOOZMAN) at noon.

## PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Lord God, You delivered Jericho into the hands of Joshua with the mighty sound of trumpet blasts and the joyful shouts of believers in Your power. We remember the story of these tumbling walls coming down, but to this day no one can find any remains of Joshua's Jericho. So complete is Your victory, Lord.

In our own day, bring an end to the violence in Iraq. Protect and bless peacemakers and the coalition military forces who are trying to bring law and order to that land. Bring down the walls of prejudice and indifference which surround war-torn Iraq. Embrace the people there with Your Spirit, that they may know peace and unity. May their ancient treasures of culture be restored as they rebuild a new nation founded upon religious truth and human dignity.

May goodness, truth and beauty in the end prove victorious. Amen.

## THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. SANCHEZ led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

## NORTH KOREA SELLING HEROIN TO PAY FOR NUKES

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, a couple of months ago, a North Korean ship, the

Pong Su, was captured while trying to transfer \$80 million worth of heroin to a fishing boat off the coast of Australia. This incident confirms that the rogue regime of Kim Jong Il is selling drugs to tighten his grip on power and prolong his reign of terror.

The evidence tying this evil regime to the drug trade is overwhelming. One of the 26 people aboard the Pong Su was a member of the North Korean ruling party who served as a senior envoy in Pyongyang's embassy in Beijing.

At a recent hearing in the Senate, a former high-ranking North Korean official testified that Kim Jong Il has personally designated land in North Korea for the growth of opium. And U.S. State Department officials have concluded that the illegal drug program is sanctioned by the North Korean Government, who is using it to fund its weapons programs.

This incident is a reminder that North Korea will stop at nothing to expand its nuclear arsenal.

## BRING IT ON

(Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice concern over the disregard President Bush has shown to our brave servicemembers and their families. Our troops are dying in Iraq at a rate of one per day. The reason? This administration failed to adequately plan for post-war peacekeeping and civil reconstruction in Iraq. As a consequence, our troops are overstretched, morale is low, and the situation within Iraq is getting worse by the day.

This administration must, it must readdress the situation and give our troops the peacekeeping training that they need; and, in addition, efforts to reach out to the international community for assistance must be enhanced. In short, we should do everything in our power to quell the violence as quickly as possible.

But instead, just last weekend, President Bush taunted insurgents in Iraq by boasting, "Bring 'em on." This is an insult not only to the military families who have lost a loved one in Iraq, but to those who live under the constant fear that their loved ones might not come home.

## GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 2658, making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes, and that I may include tabular and extraneous material.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2004

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of Thursday, June 26, 2003, and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 2658.

□ 1208

## IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 2658) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004 and for other purposes, with Mr. CAMP in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of Thursday, June 26, 2003, the bill is considered as having been read the first time.

The gentleman from California (Mr. LEWIS) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURTHA) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. LEWIS).

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

First, I appreciate very much having the opportunity to share this time with the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURTHA). I am very pleased today to bring before the House the 2004 defense appropriations bill. It is a bill that reflects very much the direction of the Commander-in-Chief as well as the Department of Defense regarding the war on terrorism that we are pursuing in the Middle East at this point, but also recognizing its great threat around the world.

The bill itself is a very, very good bill that I highly commend to the Members, Mr. Chairman. I must say that in terms of its allocation, I am a bit disappointed, for the bill before us is in the neighborhood of \$3 billion below the President's request. But having said that, we did provide some reallocation that helps some of our other bills, and in the meantime, we are doing all we can to recoup some of those dollars by way of other venues.

Having said that, the bill is a very balanced bill, and we have made every effort to reflect the will of the House as well as the needs of our men and women who are representing us so well around the world.

Before going on and commenting briefly about the bill, I want to express my deep appreciation to my colleague from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURTHA), who works hand in glove with me in developing this bill, always, but particularly in this very difficult year with the challenges we face in the world.

Mr. Chairman, I must say that this work would not have been able to have